

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE, Petitioner, v. MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY, Respondent.	DOCKET NO. FCU-04-17
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**ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO HOLD TIME FOR
ANSWER IN ABEYANCE AND REQUIRING REPORT**

(Issued April 29, 2004)

On April 12, 2004, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition and complaint regarding MidAmerican Energy Company's (MidAmerican) calculation of the allowance for funds used during construction. Consumer Advocate and MidAmerican filed a joint motion on April 28, 2004, to hold in abeyance the time for MidAmerican to file an answer. In support of the motion, Consumer Advocate and MidAmerican state that they have commenced settlement negotiations that may lead to resolution in whole or in part of the issues in the proceeding.

The Board will grant the motion. Consumer Advocate and MidAmerican will be required to file a joint report on or before May 21, 2004, regarding the status of their negotiations.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The "Joint Motion to Hold Time for Answer in Abeyance" filed by the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice and MidAmerican Energy Company on April 28, 2004, is granted.
2. Consumer Advocate and MidAmerican shall file a joint report detailing the status of their settlement negotiations on or before May 21, 2004.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 29th day of April, 2004.